

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Stendal

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 3 February 1953

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 20 December 1952, the Tauentzien Kaserne on Osterburger Strasse, Stendal, was occupied by about 800 to 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia. All barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. From 5 to 20 December, about 130 troops were seen at formation drill and training in firing in the barracks yard on several days. On 10 December, 24 soldiers with small arms and spades entered the installation, coming from the direction of Borstel.

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2. On 20 December, the Hindenburg Kaserne west of Schiller Strasse and south of Heinrich Heine Strasse was occupied by about 2,000 troops, mostly wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and, a few, blue-bordered black and red-ordered black epaulets. From 5 to 20 December, about 200 to 300 soldiers were seen at formation drill and maintaining 20 trucks in front of the garages on several days.

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3. On 20 December, the Albrecht-der-Baer Kaserne on Friedrich Ebert Strasse was occupied by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Most of the barracks buildings were completely lighted after nightfall. At about 7 p.m. on 14 December, 2 T-34/85 tanks and 2 trucks occupied by 16 to 18 soldiers each entered the installation, coming from the direction of Insel. On 20 November, 2 T-34/85 tanks and 1 armored scout car were seen in front of a garage in the installation. On 20 December, 3 officers and 24 EM carrying full field pack and small arms arrived at the Stendal railroad station, coming from the direction of Gardelegen. Truck transported them to the installation. At about 7 a.m., 2 SU-100 guns left the installation toward Arnim-Damm.

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4. On 20 November, the Tauentzien Kaserne was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets.

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5. On 19 November, a column left Stendal toward the training field at about 4 a.m. and returned at about 5 p.m. The column included 11 trucks towing 160-mm mortars; and towing 122-mm howitzers.

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6. On 6 December, 16 new rocket launchers and a garage under construction were seen at Borstel airfield west of Osterburger Strasse. The garages were occupied to capacity by factory-new trucks and 30 other trucks were in front of them. From 11 to 15 December, prime movers towing 100-mm AT guns were seen leaving the installation for a practice.

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7. On 6 December, 36 troops were at aiming practice with five howitzers in the yard of the Albrecht-der-Baer Kaserne. West of the installation, 40 troops received instruction on commander's telescopes, radio sets and aiming circles. On 21 November, 18 x 122-mm howitzers, 8 x 160-mm mortars and 6 x 76-mm guns were seen in the garages.

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8. On 10 December, the Tauntzien Kaserne was occupied by a unit wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. Thirty motor vehicles carrying pontoons and bridge-building equipment were seen in the installation.

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9. From 30 November to 4 December was occupied by two motorized rifle units, one of which had been stationed in the Tauntzien Kaserne in 1951.

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10. On 21 December, all barracks buildings and officers' billets of the Tauntzien Kaserne were lighted after nightfall. At about 9:30 a.m., 200 to 250 troops were lined up and 50 troops engaged in fatigue duty. On 30 November, 6 guns were seen in the emplacement behind the installation. They were guarded by four sentries. On 28 December, about 160 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were recruits entered the installation.

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11. From 1 to 7 December, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by an undetermined number of troops, half of which wore red-bordered black, and the other half, black-bordered crimson epaulets. An artillery emplacement with about 10 canvas-covered guns was seen in the area south of the installation. On 20 and 21 December, 360 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, armed with submachine guns and equipped with gas masks and entrenching tools left the installation toward the firing range. Some of the troops wore their gas masks when they returned. expressed the belief that Captain Kalamachenkov (fnu) belonged to the unit stationed in the installation.

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12. On 22 December, six guns [redacted] 122-mm howitzers were seen in an emplacement in the former parachuters' camp opposite the Fliegerhorst installation on the road to Borstel.

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13. From 1 to 7 December, the following officers were determined in the Taunitzien Kaserne: Lieutenant Colonel Panfilov, Lieutenant Moiseyev and Junior Lieutenant Bologratski (all fnu and spelled phonetically). All the officers wore blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia.² From 1 to 7 December, officer names determined in Stendal included: General of the Infantry Kabichenko; Lieutenant Colonel Mozalevski; Major Pozkov; Captain Terentyevich; Lieutenant Manshevo; Lieutenant Kuznatski wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; Captain Kalamachenko; Major Urtruk (all fnu and spelled phonetically). [redacted] Lieutenant Colonel Yermakov and Lieutenant Terentyev, (both fnu), along with a unit, had been transferred to Quedlinburg.²

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14. Between 11 and 23 December, Gds Major Porvukhik (fnu) was determined at the Fliegerhorst installation in Salzwedel as deputy of the commanding officer, and Major Chukarin (fnu) was at the Salzwedel komendatura.² and 3

1. [redacted] Comment. The observation of 16 new rocket launchers confirms the report [redacted] according to which, on 5 December 1952, 28 new M-31 rocket launchers had been dispatched to the 399th (?) RL Regt (US) of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps [redacted] from the U.S.S.R. via Frankfurt/Oder.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The officers mentioned [redacted] are unknown except for Major Urtruk who allegedly should belong to Gardelegen.

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3. [redacted] Comment. The observations [redacted] generally confirm the assumed occupation in Stendal. [redacted]
The following comments are made on previous assumptions:

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a. The occupation strength of the Taunitzien Kaserne which, in paragraph 1 of the present report, is estimated at 800 to 1,000 troops wearing artillery insignia, has not been confirmed [redacted] It is still believed that, among other units, the 977th Indep Sig Bn of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps and the 338th Engr Bn of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div are stationed there, as is indicated in paragraphs 4 and 8 of the present report.

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b. The Hindenburg Kaserne is occupied by only one regiment, namely the 594th Mtz Rifle Regt. The 597th Mtz Rifle Regt previously stationed in the Taunitzien Kaserne, in early October 1952, was transferred to Quedlinburg rather than to the Hindenburg Kaserne as is indicated in paragraph 9 of the present report.

c. The information [redacted] of paragraph 7 [redacted] contradicts previous assumptions according to which elements of the 693d How Arty Regt of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div were stationed in the Hindenburg Kaserne and other elements at the Fliegerhorst installation at Borstel. The entire regiment, according to the information contained in this report, is carried in the Albrecht der Engr Kaserne. In March 1952 [redacted]

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The Fliegerhorst Borstel is believed to be occupied by the 399th (?) RL Regt (US) and an unidentified AT artillery regiment as previously. The 6 artillery pieces in the emplacement mentioned in paragraph 12 probably were not howitzers but AAA guns of the unidentified AF AAA unit, stationed in the former parachuters' camp.

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